



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
SLOWER EXPORT GROWTH, LOW INFLATION IN THIRD QUARTER .....	1
GUIDELINES SET OUT TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT .....	4
DETAILS ON PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME .....	5
LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MEETS .....	6
DISTRICT OFFICER ON TIES-STRENGTHENING CALLS .....	6
DISCUSSION ON THIRD UNIVERSITY PROPOSAL .....	7
KWUN TONG GEARED FOR STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE .....	7
COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR AIDS GROUPS .....	8
REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO MEET .....	9
PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE STARTS WORK .....	9
POTTED PLANT COMPETITION FOR N.T. STUDENTS .....	10
MARKET COMPLEX CONTRACT AWARDED .....	10
COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB PARADE .....	11
EXHIBITION IN YUEN LONG .....	11
NT STUDENTS TO PERFORM IN CONCERT .....	12
ROOFTOP STRUCTURES TO BE CLOSED .....	12
WATER STORAGE FIGURE .....	13
ROAD CLOSURE IN KWUN TONG .....	13

SLOWER EXPORT GROWTH, LOW INFLATION IN THIRD QUARTER  
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RE-EXPORTS GREW BY AN ESTIMATED 23 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY AN ESTIMATED 11 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, SO THAT TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY AN ESTIMATED ONE PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, ACCORDING TO THE THIRD QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1985 PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE GOVERNMENT.

OVER THIS PERIOD THE RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION WERE RELATIVELY LOW.

REFLECTING THE RELATIVELY WEAK DOMESTIC DEMAND, RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS WERE ESTIMATED TO SHOW NO CHANGE IN REAL TERMS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 OVER THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR WHILE RETAINED IMPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS DECLINED BY ABOUT 14 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION FOR THE LABOUR FORCE AS A WHOLE DETERIORATED SLIGHTLY IN THE THIRD QUARTER COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1985, BUT WAS LITTLE CHANGED FROM THE FIRST QUARTER.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985, AT 3.4 PER CENT, WAS HIGHER THAN IN THE SECOND QUARTER, AT 3.0 PER CENT, BUT ROUGHLY THE SAME AS IN THE FIRST QUARTER, AT 3.3 PER CENT.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WAS 1.3 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 1.0 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER AND 1.3 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

THE RATE OF INFLATION REMAINED AT A RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL DURING THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1985. THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AVERAGED 3.0 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985, AGAINST 3.3 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND 8.6 PER CENT RECORDED IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1984.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) WAS ON AVERAGE 3.3 PER CENT HIGHER IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 THAN IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1984, WHILE THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WAS 3.4 PER CENT HIGHER.

THE REPORT ASSESSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 USING SUCH STATISTICS AS ARE AVAILABLE. IT ALSO UPDATES THE ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMY WHICH WAS GIVEN IN THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT 1985 PUBLISHED IN AUGUST. APART FROM GIVING AN OVERALL VIEW, THE REPORT ALSO CONTAINS INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE LABOUR SECTOR, ACTIVITY IN SELECTED SECTORS AND PRICES.

ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THAT WITH THE MAJOR EXCEPTION OF CHINA, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS DECLINED IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA GREW BY ABOUT 21 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, THOSE TO THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND JAPAN DECLINED BY ABOUT 11 PER CENT, 22 PER CENT, 18 PER CENT AND 15 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN REAL TERMS.

THE RELATIVELY HIGH VALUE OF THE U.S. DOLLAR AND THUS THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AND THE RELATIVELY LOW GROWTH RATES OF MAJOR OVERSEAS ECONOMIES, PARTICULARLY THE UNITED STATES, IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF THIS YEAR LARGELY CONTRIBUTED TO THESE DECLINES.

THERE WAS A SHARP DECELERATION IN THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA DURING THE COURSE OF THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1985, FROM 96 PER CENT IN JANUARY TO AN ESTIMATED NINE PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER, REFLECTING CHINA'S RECENT TIGHTENING OF CONTROL OVER ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE SPENDING.

COMPARING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 WITH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1984, IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT TWO PER CENT IN REAL TERMS. REFLECTING THE FASTER GROWTH IN IMPORTS FOR SUBSEQUENT RE-EXPORT, RETAINED IMPORTS DECLINED BY AN ESTIMATED NINE PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

THE REPORT FURTHER POINTS OUT THAT OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) SHOWED NO CHANGE WHILE THAT OF IMPORTS DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT. A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS, WHICH WAS EQUIVALENT TO EIGHT PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, AGAINST A SURPLUS OF FIVE PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1984.

ON THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS. FIRST, THE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR WAS SLIGHTLY STRONGER THAN THE LINKED RATE OF HK\$7.80 TO U.S.\$1 IN JULY AND FOR MOST OF AUGUST, BUT WAS GENERALLY CLOSE TO IT THROUGHOUT THE THIRD QUARTER.

SECOND, THERE CONTINUED TO BE AMPLE LIQUIDITY IN THE HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY MARKET, WHICH EXERTED DOWNWARD PRESSURE ON LOCAL INTEREST RATES. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY SO IN JULY AND EARLY AUGUST, DURING WHICH THE OVERNIGHT INTERBANK RATE FELL AT TIMES TO BELOW TWO PER CENT. ADMINISTERED INTEREST RATES WERE ADJUSTED DOWNWARDS TWICE IN JULY AND, DESPITE AN UPWARD REVISION IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, WERE STILL LOWER AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER THAN AT THE END OF JUNE.

THIRD, AS BOTH THE MONEY MARKET RATES AND THE DEPOSIT RATES SET BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS WERE CONSISTENTLY BELOW THE U.S. DOLLAR INTEREST RATES, THE GROWTH RATE OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WAS LOWER THAN THAT OF FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS.

ON THE LABOUR SECTOR, THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT, COMPARING JUNE 1985 WITH JUNE 1984, EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTOR -- PARTICULARLY IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES -- INCREASED. BUT THIS WAS PARTLY OFFSET BY THE DECLINE IN EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING AND ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE REPORT FURTHER SAYS THAT OVER THIS PERIOD, EARNINGS (IN TERMS OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED) IN THE MANUFACTURING AND THE SERVICES SECTORS CONTINUED TO RISE BOTH IN MONEY TERMS AND IN REAL TERMS.

HOWEVER, REFLECTING THE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE WEAK DOMESTIC EXPORT PERFORMANCE ON INCOMES, THERE WAS A MARKED DECELERATION IN THE RATE OF INCREASE IN MANUFACTURING EARNINGS. MEANWHILE, CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATES SHOWED SOME INCREASE IN BOTH MONEY AND REAL TERMS.

THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT THE SLOWING DOWN IN MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY CONTINUED INTO THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, AS EVIDENCED BY THE FIGURES ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS, THE ORDER-BOOK POSITION OF A SELECTION OF LARGE MANUFACTURERS, RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, AND ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION BY THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.

ON THE PROPERTY SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THE FOLLOWING TRENDS. FIRST, RENEWED CONFIDENCE COUPLED WITH THE SUCCESSIVE REDUCTIONS IN MORTGAGE RATES HAVE HELPED TO STIMULATE DEMAND FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

WHILE RENTALS FOR SMALL FLATS HAVE SHOWN SOME SLIGHT INCREASE SO FAR THIS YEAR, THOSE FOR MEDIUM AND LARGE FLATS HAVE BEEN ON A STEADY UPTREND. PRICES GENERALLY ALSO SHOWED SOME INCREASE, EXCEPT FOR MEDIUM FLATS WHERE THE EARLIER RISE IN PRICES APPEARED TO HAVE LEVELLED OFF.

HOWEVER, SECOND, COMPLETIONS OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WERE RUNNING AT A HIGH LEVEL.

THIRD, DEMAND FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY IN PRIME LOCATIONS CONTINUED TO IMPROVE, AND PRICES AND RENTALS IN THESE AREAS INCREASED.

FOURTH, THE DEMAND FOR HIGH QUALITY INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED, WITH PRICES AND RENTALS SHOWING SOME INCREASE.

FIFTH, COMPARING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1984, PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN TERMS OF TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA, BUT WAS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF UNITS, INDICATING A CONTINUED SHIFT TO THE PRODUCTION OF LARGER RESIDENTIAL FLATS. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INCREASED, BUT THOSE OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY DECREASED.

- 4 -

ON PRICES, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE RELATIVELY LOW RATE OF INFLATION WAS DUE TO A NUMBER OF DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL FACTORS. FOR EXAMPLE, AGGREGATE DEMAND IN THE ECONOMY WAS NOT PARTICULARLY STRONG, THE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR, THE RATES OF INFLATION IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS WERE MODERATE, AND WORLD COMMODITY PRICES WERE GENERALLY SOFT.

THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT \$12 A COPY.

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GUIDELINES SET OUT TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT  
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THE ENVIRONMENT OF NEW AND RE-DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN HONG KONG IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED WITH THE COMPLETION OF A REPORT SETTING OUT ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON, MR BRIAN ASHCROFT, A SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, SAID THE REPORT WAS COMPILED AS A NEW CHAPTER ON ENVIRONMENT FOR INCLUSION IN THE HONG KONG PLANNING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES -- THE MANUAL THAT DIRECTS DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN HONG KONG.

MR ASHCROFT SAID THE ENVIRONMENT CHAPTER WAS A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARDS ENSURING A MORE RIGOROUS AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS IN DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN HONG KONG.

+QUITE PURPOSELY,+ HE SAID, +THE CHAPTER HAS NOT SET RIGID ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS. IT HAS, HOWEVER, ESTABLISHED EFFECTIVE BENCHMARKS WHICH CAN NOW BE USED IN EVALUATING PLANNING DECISIONS AND WHICH WILL SERVE AS GOALS IN FUTURE PLANNING WORK.+

HE ADDED THAT IN THIS WAY THE CHAPTER ON ENVIRONMENT WOULD COMPLEMENT EXISTING AND INTENDED ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS.

+IN DRAFTING THE ENVIRONMENT CHAPTER, THE AIM HAS BEEN TO EQUIP PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED IN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO FORESEE AND TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS,+ MR ASHCROFT SAID.

THE ENVIRONMENT CHAPTER, WHICH WAS PREPARED BY A GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT ENTITLED +ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING IN HONG KONG.+

A SUBSTANTIAL DOCUMENT IN ITSELF, THE ENVIRONMENT CHAPTER INCLUDES SECTIONS ON AIR AND WATER QUALITY, NOISE, WASTE MANAGEMENT, URBAN LANDSCAPE AND THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

- 5 -

EACH SECTION PROVIDES PRACTICAL GUIDELINES ON HOW ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS CAN BE AVOIDED AT THE PLANNING STAGE, FREQUENTLY AT NO ADDITIONAL COST.

THE CHAPTER IS THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO HELP PLANNERS OVERCOME THE SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE HIGH POPULATION DENSITIES FOUND IN MANY ASIAN CITIES.

THE REPORT HAS GENERATED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST, BOTH IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS. AT A RECENT MINISTERIAL-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN ASIA HELD IN BANGKOK, THE REPORT WAS DISCUSSED AND A RESOLUTION WAS PASSED URGING OTHER ASIAN CITIES TO FOLLOW HONG KONG'S LEAD IN THIS AREA.

MR ASHCROFT WILL BE PRESENTING A PAPER ON THE HONG KONG PLANNING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES TO DELEGATES ATTENDING POLMET '85, AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POLLUTION IN THE METROPOLITAN AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT TO BE HOSTED BY HONG KONG FROM DECEMBER 2 TO 5.

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DETAILS ON PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME  
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A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE MOTOR TRADERS ASSOCIATION AT 3 PM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 28) TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME.

UNDER THE SCHEME, PRIVATE CARS WHICH ARE SIX YEARS OLD OR MORE WILL BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO ANNUAL INSPECTIONS AT GOVERNMENT-DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRES BEFORE RELICENSING.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT DAH CHONG HONG MOTOR SERVICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR (RECEPTION AREA), 20 KAI CHEUNG ROAD, KOWLOON BAY.

CHAIRING THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MOTOR TRADERS ASSOCIATION, MR RICHARD LEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD USE THE MINIBUS SHUTTLE SERVICE PROVIDED BY DAH CHONG HONG FROM TELFORD GARDENS BUS TERMINUS, OPPOSITE THE YUE HWA CHINESE PRODUCTS (HOLDINGS) LTD, TO ITS MOTOR SERVICE CENTRE IN KOWLOON BAY.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1980

- 6 -

LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MEETS

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MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MET TODAY (MONDAY) TO DISCUSS SEVERAL ISSUES RELATING TO LABOUR MATTERS AND LEGISLATION.

THE BOARD CONSIDERED THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WAGE CEILING OF NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, AND ADVISED THAT SUITABLE ADJUSTMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO KEEP IN STEP WITH THE GENERAL WAGE MOVEMENT.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TRADE UNIONS ORDINANCE TO REMOVE CERTAIN RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS AND TO IMPROVE UNION ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY WERE DISCUSSED.

MEMBERS ALSO AGREED THAT HONG KONG SHOULD ACCEPT THE INVITATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION TO SEND A TRIPARTITE DELEGATION TO ATTEND THE 10TH ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA, NEXT MONTH.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL COMPRISE THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR RON BRIDGE, AND SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER, MR SUNG KWAN-CHAK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT, MR TAM YIU-CHUNG AS REPRESENTATIVE OF EMPLOYEES, AND MR J.A. CHEETHAM, AS REPRESENTATIVE OF EMPLOYERS.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR.

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DISTRICT OFFICER ON TIES-STRENGTHENING CALLS

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TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN SELBY, WILL VISIT RESIDENTS' ORGANISATIONS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT STARTING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN A MOVE TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

THERE ARE ABOUT 150 MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS INCORPORATIONS WHICH SERVE A TOTAL OF 51 220 HOUSEHOLDS IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

IN ADDITION TO THESE ORGANISATIONS, MR SELBY WILL ALSO VISIT 30 VILLAGES IN THE RURAL AREAS TO SEE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

+I HOPE TO HEAR FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ON THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS AND THEIR VIEWS ON HOW THESE PROBLEMS CAN BE TACKLED,+ MR SELBY SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT RESIDENTS' ORGANISATIONS HAD AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION THROUGH DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT ACTIVITIES.

+THEIR HARD WORK AND ENTHUSIASM IN PARTICIPATING IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED,+ HE ADDED.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 7 -

DISCUSSION ON THIRD UNIVERSITY PROPOSAL  
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IN RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF BUILDING A THIRD UNIVERSITY, TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL AGAIN SPEAK OUT ON A SUGGESTION TO ESTABLISH THE UNIVERSITY IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) MORNING.

BOARD MEMBERS MADE THE SUGGESTION LAST YEAR AND HAD PROPOSED THAT THE LAND NEAR FU TEI WAS THE MOST SUITABLE FOR THE THIRD UNIVERSITY.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ASK THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TO EXPLAIN THE POLICY ON ENLARGED HOUSEHOLDS FOR SINGLE PERSONS IN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS.

THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WILL ALSO PRESENT A PAPER ON THE DEMAND FORECAST FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND THE CONVERSION OF SURPLUS PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOMED TO COVER THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 10 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, NO. 1, TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9 AM SHARP TO TAKE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO TUEN MUN.

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KWUN TONG GEARED FOR STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE  
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KWUN TONG WILL STRATEGICALLY BECOME AN IMPORTANT AREA FOR HONG KONG IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL BALL AND INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE HONG KONG KWUN TONG INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE ASSOCIATION, MR WIGGHAM SAID: +THE INDUSTRIAL AREA OF KWUN TONG HAS ALREADY BEEN PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENTS OF LOCAL INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE, EVER SINCE IT WAS DEVELOPED IN THE FIFTIES.

+WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SECOND CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL, AND THE NEW TRAFFIC SYSTEMS PROPOSED IN THE MEDIUM-LONG TERM STUDY REPORT OF THE EAST KOWLOON TRAFFIC STUDY, KWUN TONG WILL BECOME A MORE STRATEGIC POSITION.+

/MR WIGGHAM .....

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 8 -

MR WIGGHAM SAID HE BELIEVED THAT CURRENT INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DISTRICT WERE HEADING FOR ANOTHER MILESTONE OF ACHIEVEMENT.

THERE ARE NOW SOME 1 600 INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN KWUN TONG EMPLOYING ABOUT 160 000 WORKERS, WHICH WILL INCREASE TO 200 000 WHEN KOWLOON BAY IS FULLY DEVELOPED.

MR WIGGHAM ALSO PRAISED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION IN PROMOTING LOCAL INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

+THE RISE IN MEMBERSHIP FROM ABOUT 100 TO MORE THAN 300 DURING ITS BRIEF FOUR-YEAR HISTORY SHOWS THAT THE ASSOCIATION IS FULL OF VITALITY AND INITIATIVE,+ HE SAID.

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#### COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR AIDS GROUPS \* \* \* \*

THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP A SPECIAL COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR PEOPLE IN THE ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) HIGH RISK GROUPS.

THOSE IN THE HIGH RISK GROUPS CAN FROM TODAY (MONDAY) DIAL 3-7102553 FROM 2 PM TO 4.30 PM DAILY TO SEEK COUNSELLING ON AIDS. THE SERVICE, AVAILABLE MONDAY TO FRIDAY, IS MANNED BY A SENIOR HEALTH NURSE SPECIALLY TRAINED FOR THE JOB.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE TELEPHONE HAD BEEN SET UP TO COUNSEL PEOPLE IN THE HIGH RISK GROUPS INCLUDING HOMOSEXUALS, HAEMOPHILIACS AND INTRAVENOUS DRUG ADDICTS.

CALLERS USING THE SERVICE COULD CHOOSE TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS AND WOULD BE GIVEN A CODE NUMBER AS IDENTIFICATION.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT CALLERS WHO NEEDED FURTHER MEDICAL COUNSELLING COULD ASK TO SPEAK TO A DOCTOR AND IF NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE MADE FOR A BLOOD TEST AND FOLLOW-UP CLINICAL EVALUATION AT SPECIAL MEDICAL CONSULTATION CLINIC WHICH HAD BEEN SET UP TO PROVIDE BACK-UP CLINICAL SERVICE.

+WE WISH TO EMPHASISE THAT STRICT CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE KEPT FOR PEOPLE USING BOTH THE COUNSELLING SERVICE AND THE SPECIAL MEDICAL CONSULTATING CLINIC,+ HE ADDED.

THE NEW COUNSELLING SERVICE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE EXISTING AIDS HOTLINE (TELEPHONE NUMBER 5-724533) SERVICE WHICH HAS BEEN SET UP SINCE MARCH THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE HEALTH EDUCATION ON AIDS FOR THE PUBLIC.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 9 -

REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO MEET

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THE WAYS AND MEANS SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE ONLY ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED ON THE AGENDA WILL BE THE DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER GENERAL SUPPORT FUNCTIONS OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL IN 1986/87.

THE MEETING, WHICH WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBER IN THE TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING. SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED.

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PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE STARTS WORK

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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE (WEST) PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE WAS OPENED FOR SERVICE TODAY ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 60 TAI HO ROAD.

THE CENTRE, WITH A LIAISON OFFICER AND SUPPORTING STAFF, HANDLES SERVICES RANGING FROM ENQUIRIES, DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT FORMS AND LEAFLETS TO THE TAKING OF STATUTORY DECLARATIONS.

IT WAS FORMERLY LOCATED AT THE SUB-DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT HOI PA STREET. THE RELOCATION OF THE CENTRE FOLLOWED THE RECENT MOVE OF THE SUB-DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS TO NEW PREMISES OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD WHERE THERE IS ALSO A PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE TO SERVE THE PUBLIC.

THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE CENTRE ARE FROM 8.45 AM TO 5.15 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND 9 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAYS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-493548.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 10 -

POTTED PLANT COMPETITION FOR N.T. STUDENTS.

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SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A POTTED PLANT COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION IN SUPPORT OF THE +MEI FA+ PHASE OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN.

THE COMPETITION, TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEAUTIFYING THE ENVIRONMENT, WILL ALSO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT POTTED PLANTS.

THE CONTEST, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS -- THE PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTION FOR STUDENTS FROM PRIMARY 4 TO 6 AND THE SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTION FOR FORMS 1 TO 7 STUDENTS.

EACH SECTION COMPRISES NINE GROUPS OF DIFFERENT SPECIES OF PLANT INCLUDING AFRICAN VIOLETS, ANNUALS, CACTI, CHRYSANTHEMUMS, FERNS, FOLIAGE PLANTS, SUCCULENT PLANTS, HANGING BASKETS PLANTS AND BULBOUS PLANTS. THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES FROM EACH SCHOOL IS LIMITED TO FIVE PER GROUP.

ALL WORK FOR THE PLANT GROWING IN POTS SHOULD BE PERFORMED BY STUDENTS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF TEACHERS.

TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO THREE STUDENTS WITH THE HIGHEST MARKS IN EACH SECTION WHILE BOOK AND STATIONERY TOKENS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THREE PRINCIPLE PRIZES AND 10 MERIT PRIZES FOR EACH GROUP.

THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND THREE-DAY EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE (LUK YEUNG SUN CHUEN) OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, TSUEN WAN, ON MARCH 7 NEXT YEAR.

SCHOOL HEADS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR ENTRY FORMS TO THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ROOM 437, LEE GARDENS, FOURTH FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE DECEMBER 18.

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MARKET COMPLEX CONTRACT AWARDED

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A \$30.8 MILLION CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MARKET COMPLEX AT THE JUNCTION OF MONG KOK ROAD AND FA YUEN STREET.

THE 14-STOREY COMPLEX, BUILT FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL BY THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WILL BE ON A 1 600-SQUARE-METRE SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY A HAWKER BAZAAR.

/THREE FLOORS .....

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 11 -

THREE FLOORS OF THE COMPLEX WILL BE FOR MARKET STALLS AND ONE FLOOR FOR COOKED FOOD STALLS. OTHER FACILITIES INCLUDE OFFICES, A LIBRARY, SQUASH COURTS, GAMES ROOMS AND A MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS HALL.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MID-DECEMBER AND BE COMPLETED BY LATE 1987.

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COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB PARADE  
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, WILL TAKE THE SALUTE AT THE FIFTH ANNUAL PARADE OF THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI, TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 2.30 PM.

MORE THAN 3 000 CYC MEMBERS WILL ATTEND THE PARADE, WHICH WILL FEATURE CHINESE DANCE, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, BRASS BAND AND INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE CHESS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO BE SEATED BY 2.15 PM.

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EXHIBITION IN YUEN LONG  
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THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE WILL ORGANISE A DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION EXHIBITION FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO NOVEMBER 29 AS PART OF A CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, MR TAI KUEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 3.30 PM AT THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL, TAI YUK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY AND THE EXHIBITION.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 12 -

NT STUDENTS TO PERFORM IN CONCERT  
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THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH WILL PRESENT A STUDENTS' CONCERT ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 1) AT 3 PM AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

THE NEW TERRITORIES STUDENTS' CONCERT WILL FEATURE PERFORMANCES BY THE TSUEN WAN CHINESE ORCHESTRA AND THE NEW TERRITORIES YOUTH STRING ORCHESTRA, BOTH OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, AND THE TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL CHOIR.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR NATHAN MA NING-HEI, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE CONCERT.

THE CONCERT IS ONE OF THE REGULAR MUSIC ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE TO PROVIDE ITS TRAINEES AN OPPORTUNITY TO PERFORM IN PUBLIC.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING MUSIC CENTRES:

- \* TSUEN WAN MUSIC CENTRE, CHEUNG YIU BUILDING, 167-173 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, SECOND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN
- \* YUEN LONG MUSIC CENTRE, YUEN LONG CENTRE, 55 SHAU FU STREET, THIRD FLOOR, YUEN LONG
- \* SHA TIN MUSIC CENTRE, KCR HOUSE, FOURTH FLOOR, SHA TIN

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-428127.

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ROOFTOP STRUCTURES TO BE CLOSED  
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING THE CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THE ROOF OF NO. 2 TO 20, TAK WAH STREET, TSUEN WAN, TO ENABLE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURES WITHOUT A DANGER TO PEOPLE.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON DECEMBER 30 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (MONDAY).

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF THE EXERCISE TO ENFORCE THE ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN FEBRUARY 1985 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THESE STRUCTURES.

DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSURE ORDERS ARE MADE.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1985

- 13 -

WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 72.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 427.246 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 457.785 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 78.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN KWUN TONG

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ELEGANCE ROAD IN KWUN TONG WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 12.01 AM AND 6 AM FROM NOVEMBER 28 (THURSDAY) TO DECEMBER 4, EXCEPT ON DECEMBER 2, TO FACILITATE ROAD RESURFACING WORK.

TRAFFIC HEADING FOR KWUN TONG ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE NGAU TAU KOK ROAD, WHILE TRAFFIC HEADING FOR NGAU TAU KOK ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE KWUN TONG ROAD.

MEANWHILE, FA YUEN STREET BETWEEN SHANTUNG STREET AND SOY STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 28) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION.

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